

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 00359 171812Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /064 W
-----171813Z 068845 /43

P R 171651Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8614
INFO AMEMBASSY VALLETA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY ALGERIA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 359

E.O QQYTWC GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MT,SP
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO MALTA

1. DURING MY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA ON
JANUARY 17 ON OTHER MATTERS, HE RAISED THE QUESTION
OF HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO MALTA ON JANUARY 21.
HE EXPLAINED THAT WHEN PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ HAD
STARTED TO PLAN FOR HIS TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST
IT HAD BEEN DECIDED THAT, IN VIEW OF SEVERAL TRIPS
MINTOFF HAD MADE TO SPAIN OVER THE PAST YEARS, HE
SHOULD INCLUDE MALTA IN HIS ITINERARY. HOWEVER,
SUAREZ HAD BEEN OBLIGED TO ALTER HIS PLANS AT LEAST
TWO TIMES AND FINALLY HAD DECIDED TO DROP MALTA
ALTOGETHER FROM HIS STILL UNCERTAIN ITINERARY.
BECAUSE OF THIS, OREJA EXPLAINED, HE WILL NOW BE
GOING TO VALLETA ON JANUARY 21.

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2. I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW WITH OREJA
OUR VIEWS ON MINTOFF'S NETURALITY PROPOSAL ALONG THE
LINES OF 76 STATE 313031. AFTER INDICATING OUR
UNDERSTANDING FOR MALTA'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AFTER
UK WITHDRAWAL, I SAID WE WELCOMED THE INTEREST OF
MATLTA'S EUROPEAN NEIGHBORS AND THAT WE HAD NO
OBJECTION TO ECONOMIC AND SECURITY GUARANTEES FOR

MALTA BY EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. WE THOUGHT IT
APPROPRIATE THAT THE ITALIANS SHOULD TAKE THE LEAD.
FOR OUR PART, WE DID NOT WISH TO TAKE ANY INITIATIVES
OR SHOW ANY US INTEREST IN THIS MATTER THAT MINTOFF
MIGHT EXPLOIT.

3. OREJA EXPRESSED INTEREST IN US VIEWS. HE
INDICATED AWARENESS OF MINTOFF'S SPECIAL CHARACTER
AND SAID HE WAS SOMEWHAT WARY OF MINTOFF'S
RELATIONS WITH LIBYA. HE WOULD LISTEN TO HAT
MINTOFF WOULD HAVE TO SAY BUT PLANNED TO MAKE NO
COMMITMENTS AT THIS STAGE. HE WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH
WITH ME AFTER THE VISIT FOR FURTHER EXCHANGE OF
INFORMATION. STABLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PFOR, MT, SP, US, (OREJA AGUIRRE, MARCELINO), (STABLER, WELLS), (SUAREZ GONZALEZ, ADOLFO)
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